GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5168
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2002
DEVELOPMENT OF WATER RESOURCES IN J & K
KAILASH MEGHWAL

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has included Jammu& Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and North-Eastern States in the specialcategory for development of water resources;

(b) if so, the criteria prescribed and special benefits being provided to these States;

(c) whether the Government of Rajasthan has also requested to include it in the same category; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be done ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) & (b) Keeping in view the topographical conditions in regard to development of Water Resources, the States of J&K, Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Sikkim and North-Eastern Statesand Drought Prone K B K districts o f Orissa are considered a s special category for providing Central Loan Assistance (C L A)under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP). These special category State are extended C L A under AIBP in the ratio of 3:1 (Centre : State)against 2:1 for non special category States. Also, in case the special category States agree to bring in reforms in the Water Sector, 100% loan assistance is provided under AIBP against 4:! for non special category States.

(c) & (d) The Chief Minister Rajasthan wrote to theUnion Water Resources Minister on 31.1.2000 and again on 22.1.2001 to the Prime Minister requesting for according special status to Rajasthan as well as relaxation of norms under AIBP. As per approved AIBP guidelines, Rajasthan is being treated as a general category i.e. non-special category State and thus the relaxations available to the special category States are not available to that State.